



ML scientist honored as fellow in area of physics *by Pete Meltzer Jr., Materials and Manufacturing Directorate*

WRIGHT – PATTERSON AFB, Ohio — Dr. Robert J. Spry, a scientist at the Air Force Research Laboratory's (AFRL) Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, has been named a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS) for his outstanding achievements and contributions in physics during more than 33 years of federal service.

As a senior researcher in the Nonmetallic Materials Division's Polymer Branch, Spry has led the way in a number of critical advancements supporting operational and future Air Force systems. He has also been recognized for his many contributions to higher learning as an adjunct professor at Wright State University and his 18 years of active support of regional student science fairs.

Since its creation over a century ago, the 40,000-member APS has become the principal membership organization for physicists in the United States. The APS Fellowship Program recognizes society members who have made significant advancements through original research and publication, including contributions in the application of physics to science and technology. No more than one-half of one percent of their membership can be elected "Fellow" in any given year.

Spry earned his bachelor's degree in engineering physics, master's degree in physics and doctorate degree in solid state physics from the University of Illinois.

A native of Dayton, Spry has authored 65 publications and patents, made 90 formal presentations, and earned numerous scientific awards, including the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate's Cleary Award for research; a finalist twice and nominee seven other times. He received an "Honorable Mention" for the Air Force Basic Research Award; five Air Force Scientific Achievement Awards; four Air Force Office of Scientific Research "Star Team" Awards; and the former Air Force Systems Command Scientific and Technology Achievement Award.

Spry is also a recipient of the coveted "Outstanding Engineers and Scientists Award" presented annually by the Affiliate Societies Council of Dayton, and a member of Tau Beta Pi, Pi Mu Epsilon and Sigma Xi. @